

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: John Kelley et al.) Examiner:
Serial No.:) Attorneys' Ref. P313210
Filing Date: February 05, 2001) Art Unit:
Title: DATA TRACKING METHOD)
AND APPARATUS)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, the Applicant(s) respectfully submit(s) this Information Disclosure Statement to call to the attention of the Examiner the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in the prosecution of the above-referenced application for U.S. patent. Copies of these references are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience, along with an appropriately completed Form PTO-1449.

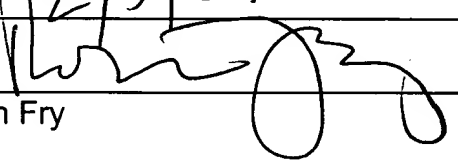
It is believed that no fee is due at this time to maintain this application in full force and effect, but if any such fee is due, please charge this to Deposit account number 08-3260.

Certificate of Mailing (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this document (along with any document referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on date shown below.

Date

Robin Fry

2/5/01


REMARKS

U.S. 6,078,891 Riordan et al., shows a system and method to track point-of-sale information and send this information through the Internet to an inventory database. The architecture requires a payment vehicle scanner 107 to track the sale of goods. The disclosure is directed toward a retail environment.

U.S. 6,070,147 Harms et al., shows a method and system that records buying information which is associated with an official ID. The official information is used to extract data from third party databases to retrieve demographics about the consumers. The invention removes the need for consumers to have additional membership cards other than their government ID (e.g. driver's license).

U.S. 5,963,914 Skinner et al., shows a system that allows employers to keep track of their employees' activity on the computer. As seen in figure 3 the flow diagram illustrates how the keystrokes are recorded to a file. The disclosure is directed to solve telecommuting problems where employee's lack of diligence is an issue.

U.S. 5,924,077 Beach et al., shows a system where point-of-sale data is tracked to evaluate business performance.

U.S. 5,592,549 Nagel et al., is a less relevant disclosure dealing with an encryption of data as it is transferred across the network.

CONCLUSION

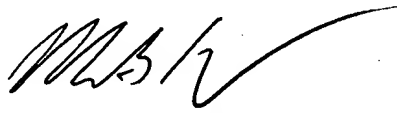
The Applicant respectfully submits that the attached references, taken alone or in combination, neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to the pending application is respectfully requested.

If there is any matter which could be expedited by consultation with the Applicant's attorney, such would be welcome. The Applicant's attorney can normally be reached at the telephone number below.

Signed at Bellingham, County of Whatcom, State of Washington this February
05, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kelley et al.



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